

13281 U.S.PTO
04190422330 U.S.PTO
10/826696
041904

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.
1421 Prince Street, Suite 210
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2805
Telephone: (703) 739-0220

Attorney Docket No.: WATK:265

Date: April 19, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) is the patent application of

Inventor(s): Yoshihiko KURASHIMA; Shigeru HANZAWA;
Michitaka HIDAKA; Toshihiko HONDA

For: FURNACE AND FIRING PROCESS

Enclosed are:

- An Application Data Sheet.
- Six (6) sheets of informal drawings, Figures 1-6.
- An Assignment of the invention to NGK INSULATORS, LTD.
- Certified copies of Japanese applications Nos. 2003-197289 filed July 15, 2003; 2003-325402 filed September 18, 2003; 2003-339999 filed September 30, 2003; and 2004-020397 filed January 28, 2004.
- A Declaration and Power of Attorney.
- This application is not entitled to small entity status;
- A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed.
- An Information Disclosure Statement.
- The Verified English-Language Translation, executed Declaration and Assignment and full filing fees will follow in due course.



13281 U.S.PTO
041904

	<u>Number Filed</u>	<u>Number Extra</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Basic Fee</u>
Total				\$770.00
Claims	- 20 =		x \$ 18.00=	\$
Independent				
Claims	- 3 =		x \$ 86.00=	\$
Multiple Dependent Claim(s) (if applicable)			+ \$ 290.00=	\$
Total				770.00
Reduction by 1/2 for filing Small Entity				
Assignment recordation fee			\$ 40.00=	\$
			TOTAL FILING FEE	\$

- [] Our Check No. _____ in the amount of the total filing fee is enclosed. However, if the check is missing or insufficient, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. -----.
- [] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees during the pendency of this application or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. -----: any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17; and any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for presentation of extra claims.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.



Roger W. Parkhurst
Registration No. 25,177